**Financing of mega power projects by ADB**

*346. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plan to rope in the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for financing five ultra mega power plants of 4,000 MW each to boost the confidence of private developers etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any of such plant is located in Orissa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has expressed interest in providing assistance for Ultra Mega Power Projects being developed through competitive tariff based bidding. The investment requirement is of the order of Rs. 16,000 crores (about US$ 3.5 billion) for the development of each of the Ultra Mega Power Projects. Once successful bidder is identified as the project developer, it would be left to the selected developer/consortium to negotiate further with ADB and other financing agencies for availing of the financial instruments being offered by them, which, inter-alia, could include debt, equity and guarantees.

(c) and (d) Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has identified 7 feasible sites including a pit head site in Orissa along with the captive block for development of Ultra Mega Power Project of 4,000 MW. Further, action is contingent upon confirmation from Government of Orissa regarding availability of land.

**Amount required for research and development of mineral wealth**

†347. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a need of Rs. 2500 crores every year for research and development of mineral wealth of India;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the amount being spent on this work at present every year; and

(c) the future plan of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (c) Research and Development of minerals covers various facets and a number of organizations in the Government of India and Public sector as also the Private sector are engaged in this work. The need for funding depends on the extent and nature of work undertaken. Expenditure on general Research and Development (R&D) and on exploration of mineral wealth under various programmes of the Government organizations and public sector [e.g. Geological Survey of India, Indian Bureau fo Mines, Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited, etc.] incurred during 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 are Rs. 51.97 crore, Rs. 46.25 crore, Rs. 51.06 crore, Rs. 57.47 crore respectively. The outlay for 2006-07 is Rs. 66.30 crore.

The Government does not maintain information relating to the expenditure incurred by the private sector on R&D work.

Government is laying emphasis on R&D for exploration and development of mineral wealth in India and due priority is being accorded to this.

**Amount for research institutes of CSIR**

348. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated for each of the research institutes of CSIR during each of the last three years;

(b) the amount spent by them alongwith the percentage of amount spent for research, institute-wise;

(c) whether it is fact that research output is almost insignificant when compared to the administrative and infrastructural expenses incurred on these institutes; and

(d) if so, the justification for continuous huge expenditure in this regard?